

NEWS RELEASE



Press Office

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May 20, 2010

Vote Now for Malaysian Finalist in the Democracy Video Challenge



Malaysian youth in top Malaysian Democracy Video Challenge video entitled "Democracy is you."

Kuala Lumpur, May 19, 2010 – Now is the time to VOTE in support of a fellow Malaysian who is about to make it big. Malaysian filmmaker Linus Chung has been selected as a finalist in the 2010 Democracy Video Challenge for his outstanding video entitled, "[Democracy is you](#)." If his video receives the most votes in East Asia, Linus Chung will receive an all-expense paid trip to New York City, Washington DC and Hollywood in September 2010 where he and five other grand prize winners from around the world will see their videos shown at gala screenings and meet with celebrities in America's film and television industry. Now it is up to you to vote for the grand prize winners at <http://youthsays.com/helpmalaysiawin/>. Voting is open until June 15th.

Malaysian Filmmaker Linus Chung, originally from Sarawak, was chosen as one of three East Asian finalists for his original short video, "[Democracy is you](#)." Nicholas Papp, Cultural Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy congratulated the filmmaker this afternoon and wished him luck in

the final phase of the competition which is sponsored by the U.S. Embassy and the U.S. Department of State.

Linus Chung's video speaks of democracy through the eyes of children on a playground. He emphasizes the values of racial diversity, sharing as well as peace and unity. In the video, one Malaysian boy notes that there are many things wrong with the world today, but we can fix them. Democracy is hope.

Linus Chung told the Embassy, "I hope Malaysians will watch my video and vote for it on YouTube to allow me the opportunity to represent Malaysia worldwide. My country is very fortunate to have enjoyed an atmosphere of peace and unity through diversity but we should never be complacent in upholding our democracy. For a start, we should all make the effort to be registered voters; choose and elect good leaders. We must all work towards making the 'One Malaysia' campaign a reality for ourselves and for our children. The Democracy Video Challenge is a great platform to share with the world the value democracy can bring to a country; Malaysia, for one, has enjoyed much progress and growth amidst multi-cultural peace."

In describing his experience applying for the Democracy Video Challenge, Chung said, "when I heard of the challenge, I was immediately compelled to create something. Democracy is a very simple and yet very powerful idea. I decided to make a video that will hopefully educate kids on the values of democracy while reminding us adults why it is so important to uphold it for all of us. Democracy is after all ...you!"



Malaysian Democracy Video Challenge Finalist Linus Chung with Norman Abdul Halim from KRU Studios

Norman Abdul Halim, Executive President of KRU Studios, and lead partner for the Democracy Video Challenge in Malaysia, also congratulated the young filmmaker for his skill and creativity in using this video challenge to promote the true spirit of Malaysia... "***One Malaysia***," on a world stage. Norman was also pleased to see that Malaysian filmmakers submitted a total of 28 entries in the 2010 Democracy Video Challenge - more submissions than any other country in Asia except Indonesia.

Linus Chung faced stiff competition from his fellow Malaysians in making it to the semifinal round in April 2010 when the top three Malaysian videos were chosen. An independent jury in Washington D.C. selected the worldwide finalists, including the three East Asian finalists from Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

In order to vote for Linus Chung's video (or any other finalist film) to win the grand prize, please go to <http://youthsays.com/helpmalaysiawin/>. It's important to remember to sign in to the YouTube site with your YouTube or Google password before casting your vote. If you don't sign in, your vote won't count. Remember, you can only vote for one video per day. So Sign in and Vote for Linus's video "[Democracy is you](#)" first.

Good luck Linus. Go Malaysia!

NOTE TO EDITORS:

For more information, or to obtain high resolution photos or a copy of the video, please contact the Press Office at 2168 8000 or email to PublicAffairsKL@state.gov



Malaysian partners of the Democracy Video Challenge include:
the U.S. Embassy, KRU Studios, 8tv, 'Marketing' magazine, Malaysian Animation Society,
Lim KokWing University, Multimedia University and The Laundry Bar.